

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A modifier, for a resin having an average particle size of 20 μm or more, ~~wherein comprising:~~

less than 30% by mass of non-irradiated modifier particles having an average particle size of 10 μm or less ~~account for less than 30% by mass of the modifier~~, and

30% by mass or more of irradiated modifier particles having an average particle size of 10 μm or less, said irradiation occurring via an ~~account for 30% by mass or more of the modifier after irradiating the modifier with~~ ultrasonic wave of 40 W for 5 minutes;

wherein the modifier is obtained by

adding one or more copolymerizable vinyl-based monomers to a rubber polymer latex comprising an acrylic rubber,

graft-polymerizing the copolymerizable vinyl-based monomers and the rubber polymer latex to obtain a graft copolymer having an average particle size of 600 to 900 nm, and

spray-drying the graft copolymer.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A resin composition comprising 1 to 40% by mass of the modifier for resin according to claim 1 and 99 to 60% by mass (the total amount of both components is 100% by mass) of a thermoplastic resin or a curable resin.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): A molded article which is produced by molding the resin composition according to claim 3.

Claim 5 (New): The modifier according to claim 1, wherein the one or more copolymerizable vinyl-based monomers are selected from the group consisting of an aromatic vinyl monomer, an alkyl methacrylate ester monomer, an alkyl acrylate ester monomer, an unsaturated nitrile monomer, a vinyl-based monomer having a glycidyl group, and a vinyl-based monomer having a hydroxyl group.

Claim 6 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the aromatic vinyl monomer is selected from the group consisting of styrene, α -methylstyrene, a halogen-substituted styrene, and an alkyl-substituted styrene.

Claim 7 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the alkyl methacrylate ester monomer is selected from the group consisting of methyl methacrylate and ethyl methacrylate.

Claim 8 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the alkyl acrylate ester monomer is selected from the group consisting of ethyl acrylate and n-butyl acrylate.

Claim 9 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the unsaturated nitrile monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile and methacrylonitrile.

Claim 10 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the vinyl-based monomer having a glycidyl group is selected from the group consisting of glycidyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, allyl glycidyl ether and ethylene glycol glycidyl ether.

Claim 11 (New): The modifier according to claim 5, wherein the vinyl-based monomer having a hydroxyl group is hydroxymethacrylate.

Claim 12 (New): The modifier according to claim 1, wherein the total amount of the copolymerizable vinyl-based monomers used in the graft-polymerization is 5 to 50% by mass based on the total amount of the copolymerizable vinyl-based monomers and the rubber polymer latex.

Claim 13 (New): The modifier according to claim 1, wherein the graft copolymer has a core-shell structure.

Claim 14 (New): The modifier according to claim 13, wherein a core component of the graft copolymer has a glass transition temperature of -150°C to 10°C .

Application No. 10/589,501
Reply to Office Action of May 29, 2009

Claim 15 (New): The modifier according to claim 13, wherein a shell component of the graft copolymer has a glass transition temperature of 30°C to 150°C.